

PARTISAN DEFENCE COMMITTEE

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!



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Ukrainian and Russian socialists in prison for opposing war Free Bogdan Syrotiuk and Boris Kagarlitsky!

It has been over 1,000 days since Russia invaded Ukraine in response to NATO provocation. Socialists in Russia and Ukraine who have spoken out in opposition to this war have been met with brutal repression by both governments.

In July last year, Russian authorities arrested prominent left-wing intellectual Boris Kagarlitsky for his staunch opposition to the invasion of Ukraine. He was later sentenced to five years in prison by a military court on trumped-up charges of “justifying terrorism”. Bogdan Syrotiuk, a political leader of the Young Guard of Bolshevik-Leninists, was swept up in April by the Ukrainian secret service and has been languishing in prison awaiting trial on blatantly false charges of treason and serving Russian interests. He is facing 15 years to life imprisonment.

Socialists and workers have a clear interest in fighting for the release of Bogdan Syrotiuk and Boris Kagarlitsky as an expression of class solidarity with their principled opposition to the war. Both sides in this war are pursuing reactionary objectives, and a victory for either would strengthen the forces of reaction throughout Europe. In the imperialist centres, to help beat back the attacks on living conditions at home, the trade-union movement and the left must take a side with the workers in Ukraine and Russia *against* the NATO imperialists who are arming Zelensky and must oppose Putin’s oligarchy as well.

The Socialist Equality Party and Socialist Workers Party among others have initiated publicity campaigns which is an important step. Now, an international united-front campaign must be built, not only of socialist organisations but importantly in the trade unions, in defence of these and other antiwar activists imprisoned in Russia and Ukraine.

***Free Boris Kagarlitsky and Bogdan Syrotiuk!
Drop all charges now!***

—23 November 2024

The Partisan Defence Committee is a class-struggle, non-sectarian legal and social defence organisation which champions cases and causes in the interest of the whole of the working people. This purpose is in accordance with the political views of the Spartacist League.